

St. Bede's Catholic College

Specialist Science and Sports College
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Principal: Mr J. G. Maher, M.A.



26th September 2019

Dear Parent / Guardian,

Your child has shown an interest in participating in the Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award this year. This is the third year that we are offering the Silver Duke of Edinburgh Award to year 10 and it has been incredibly successful. The Silver award is considerably more challenging than the Bronze award, and requires a high level of commitment from each participant. Each application will be looked at on an individual basis and participants do not need to have undertaken their Bronze award prior. Student applications need to be submitted **by Wednesday 9th October**.

The cost of the award this year will be £220, as we will be using a DofE approved activity provider to deliver training and expeditions. The cost also covers overnight camping fees, transport and group equipment (tents, stoves, compasses, maps and first aid kits). Once your child has received confirmation of acceptance onto the award, can I please ask that a £50 deposit (or full amount) is paid. We kindly ask that the total is paid by February 2019.

In order for the students to participate in the award they need to be able to attend the training session, the practice expedition and the assessed expedition.

Dates:

- Saturday 21st March: In school training 9am – 2pm
- Wednesday 1st – Friday 3rd April: Practice expedition in the Forest of Dean
- Monday 6th – Wednesday 8th July: Assessed expedition in the Forest of Dean

As ever, students need to be fully committed to the DofE Award and understand that there is much more than just the expedition aspect. They also need to undertake a Skill, Physical Activity and Volunteering as part of the Award. These do not need to be new to the student and can be something that they are already doing and plan to continue to do (e.g. music lessons or sport clubs). They can also all be undertaken simultaneously. Further details of these will be provided upon enrolment.

Like Bronze, the Silver Duke of Edinburgh award offers students an experience that they will remember for a lifetime, and gain skills that cannot be taught in the classroom. The silver award pushes students further with their ability to make decisions and act independently. Although it can be challenging at times, it is an excellent asset to add to their CV and above all, an incredibly fun and exciting opportunity.

If you have any questions, please contact me via email – n.sutton@stbcc.org.

Kind Regards

Mr N Sutton

